



## **GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

# **Press Release**

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### **GA DOT TO MANAGE QUICK REPLACEMENT OF THREE FLOOD-DAMAGED BRIDGES IN SANDY SPRINGS & DEKALB**

ATLANTA – The Georgia Department of Transportation will assist the City of Sandy Springs and DeKalb County in the expedited replacement of three local-system bridges damaged by last month's flooding, Commissioner Vance C. Smith, Jr., announced today. The affected bridges are located on Peachtree-Dunwoody Road over Nancy Creek and Riverside Drive across Marsh Creek, both in Sandy Springs, and on Redan Road over Barbashela Creek in DeKalb.

State and local inspectors determined damage to all three structures to be irreparable; the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) concurred in those findings. Consequently, if the replacements can be completed within six months, FHWA emergency relief funds will cover the entire cost of all three projects.

"All three of these roads are critical components of their community's transportation infrastructure. Thousands of motorists depend on them daily," Smith commented. "We all agreed that the fastest, most cost-efficient way to replace the bridges was for Georgia DOT to manage the work on a fast-track schedule. People are counting on us; we will deliver for them."

The Department will conduct expedited bid lettings on the three projects and expects to award contracts within the next two-three weeks so that the six-month completion timetable will be met. During the construction period, the City of Sandy Springs and DeKalb County will maintain posted detour routes.

In addition to these local roads, Georgia DOT also plans a quick replacement of the State Route 166 bridge spanning Anneewakee Creek in Douglas County; that project will be let to contract next week and also completed in six months.

Georgia DOT is continuing to assist 21 counties in assessing flood damage to local roads and streets. A preliminary report on damage totals is expected within days. "Our own state highway system was seriously damaged, totaling some \$8 million, but the toll on local roads and streets has been devastating in

some communities,” Smith said. “Our damage assessment teams are working with local governments and the FHWA to determine damage levels and identify available funds for repairs.”

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about flood-related road and bridge closures, or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at [www.511ga.org](http://www.511ga.org).

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia’s economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. Additional transportation revenues are imperative to grow and sustain Georgia's economic vitality and quality of life through the 21st Century. Georgia is the 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest-growing state in the nation, yet 49<sup>th</sup> in per capita spending on transportation. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site ([www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov)).

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